them from District Forests by means of licenses issued by departmental officials. This procedure entails much hardship and delay. The patels of the maidan villages may also be authorised to grant such licenses in future.

The Conservator of Forests explained that the removal of leaves and fuel from District Forests was permitted without any license.

Reply of Government.—Existing rules provide for necessary relief. Nothing can be granted in State Forests.

SUBJECT No. 95.

Prosecutions under Forest Regulation.

Mr. K. S. Santhanam Iyengar, Closepet Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—Prosecutions under the Forest Regulation should not be conducted by officers who investigated the case as they would give the lie to the witnesses direct. Further, statements before Excise and Forest officers are relevant and therefore there is greater danger.

Mr. C. Subba Rao of Shimoga in supporting the proposal observed that there would be no use in cross-examining the investigating officer in such cases, if he be present in the Court when other witnesses were being examined.

Mr. Santhanam Iyengar added that as Forest officers also had some influence over the public there was danger to the latter if they themselves conducted the prosecution.

Reply of Government.—No change is called for. This involves a question of funds. Special cases will however be considered when brought to notice.

SUBJECT No. 96.

Supply of building materials in cases of accidental fire.

Messrs. Krishnappa and Channabasappa Gowda, Sorab taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Amildars are empowered to grant building materials to the value of Rs. 5 free of cost to those whose houses are destroyed by accidental fire. The quantity thus granted is hardly sufficient to build a house, and if more materials are required they will have to apply to the Deputy Commissioner for sanction. Rainy season sets in before sanction is obtained and the villagers are put to much inconvenience. Amildars may be empowered to make free grants of building materials according to the requirements of each individual but not exceeding the value of Rs. 10 in each case.

Reply of Government.—The question of empowering Amildars to make free grants of building materials particularly in the Malnad tracts tentatively for a period of three years will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 97.

(*a*) Abolition of *hulbanni* in malnad parts.
(*b*) Free pasturage to cattle in assessed waste lands and in District and Reserve forests.

Mr. Nadig Bhistaiya, Narasimharajapura sub-taluk.

Note.—Not discussed owing to the absence of the proposer.